Past Pursuits

A Newsletter of the Special Collections Division of the Akron-Summit County Public Library

Volume 6, Number 2 **Summer 2007**

West Virginians in Akron

Michael Elliott, Public Service Assistant

The turn of the last century witnessed the emergence of the industry forever linked with the rise of Akron – rubber. The automotive industry was booming, and most of the cars that rolled off the assembly line were equipped with tires built in Akron. Unfortunately, this demand was happening at the precise time that the usual source of cheap labor – European immigrants – was curtailed due to World War I. To supply the factories with strong backs, plant managers turned to an untapped domestic source of labor to fill the production lines. That was Appalachia. Whether it was coal mining, small-scale farming or sharecropping, immigrants from Appalachia streamed into Akron where warm bodies were needed to man the machinery of the rubber shops. Between 1900 and 1910, the total population of Akron went from 42,565 to 69,082 and from 1910 to 1920, it went from 69,082 to 208,253. During the second decade just mentioned, employment in the rubber shops increased by a staggering 50,000 employees.
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Presidential Visits to Akron, Part II

By Michael Elliott, Public Service Assistant

In our last issue, we explored the visits of several U.S. Presidents to the Akron area. The next 100 years would see many more campaign visits from Presidents and candidates.

Woodrow Wilson appears to be the only President of the 20th century not to have visited Akron. It is very probable he would have campaigned in the area but three weeks before the election of 1912, a deranged man critically wounded Bull Moose party candidate Teddy Roosevelt in Milwaukee, causing a worried Wilson to cancel all further appearances. Wilson's frail constitution and very short and private post-Presidential life prevented much traveling. During the 1916 campaign, Wilson's stand-in William Jennings Bryan made a stop here, stumping for him. The perennial runner-up Bryan was no stranger to the Akron area, having repeatedly visited the area during his own campaigns for President. On one visit, he spoke from a hastily constructed grandstand erected in front of the Buchtel Hotel at the southeast corner of Main and Mill. In terms of sheer numbers this event was rivaled only by Roosevelt's visit in 1912.

Warren G. Harding – then U.S. Senator from Ohio -- was here on April 19, 1920 speaking at the armory against American involvement in the League of Nations. Earlier in the day, he had toured the recently completed Goodyear Hall across from company headquarters on Market St. and briefly spoke there at a dedication service in front of a capacity crowd. After his sudden death in office three years later, the funeral cortege passed through Akron on its way from Washington to the tomb in Marion, Ohio. Thousands of Summit County residents lined the tracks in respect and curiosity as the funeral train proceeding slowly through the Akron area.

Calvin Coolidge made his first public appearance as President in Akron. On his way to the Harding funeral in Marion, Ohio, his special car switched locomotives at the East Exchange St. crossing. In Akron for a scant ten minutes, the President and his wife appeared on the platform of his car for just a minute or two – time enough for the photographer present to record the moment. Four years later, although not physically present, he was given the singular honor of starting the printing presses in the new Beacon Journal building on October 10, 1927. He did this by remote control, pressing an electronic "start-up" button from the White House.

Herbert Hoover made a short "whistle-stop" campaign speech of a few minutes' duration at Union Depot on October 15, 1932. More than 10,000 people jammed the area surrounding Akron's train station under the Market St. bridge to hear Hoover give a brief account as to why he should be reelected. Included in the multitude was young Herbert Hoover McClain, who had been born just after Hoover's election to the Presidency. Invited up onto the platform of the President's private car, McClain was presented to the President. Prompted to greet the President and shake his hand, the tightlipped and very nervous young man instead slightly dampened the President's pant leg.

Franklin D. Roosevelt passed through the area in August and October of 1936 while his locomotive took on water at the N. Arlington St. ("Old Forge") crossing. However, no one got so much as even a glimpse of the President, as security was at a fever pitch with extra railroad detectives and the Akron police keeping the general public well away. FDR returned to Akron late in the evening of October 11, 1940 when he spoke to thousands of supporters at the Union Depot. The ramps and slopes surrounding the depot and the Market St. and Perkins St. bridges were packed sardine-like with people who listened to his few remarks encouraging them to redouble their production efforts in Akron's factories as a means of self-defense. The President also attempted to reassure his listeners regarding the world's ongoing conflicts by offering he was "confident that in the future we shall be able to avoid being brought into war through attack by somebody else on the Americas." At the close of his abbreviated and impromptu remarks, the train slowly pulled away

from the station, the President gripping the handrail of his railcar while small boys scampered along the rails after the rapidly accelerating train.

In a much publicized visit on October 11, 1948 (coincidentally the same day the Cleveland Indians claimed their last World Series title), Harry Truman arrived at Union Depot at about 7:30 p.m. He was conducted through Akron in an open automobile to the Akron Armory. Despite Akron being his 11th stop of the day, Truman smiled and waved to all of the well-wishers lining Akron's streets that early October evening, including my father, who was one of the many in the admiring crowd along Main St. At 9:00 pm. Truman appeared at the Akron Armory (now the site of the Ocasek office building) where he gave a speech to a wildly enthusiastic crowd and radio audience.

Dwight Eisenhower was welcomed at Harbel Manor, the home of Harvey Firestone, in the summer of 1919. At that time, he was part of the army's "transcontinental motor train" experiment, proving that cross-country motorized mass transit was feasible. A strong proponent of motorized transport, Ike's opinion was further reinforced by seeing the autobahn in Germany during the war. He passed through Akron again on June 8, 1964, while on the way to the Governors Conference in Cleveland. He and wife Mamie detrained at Akron's new Union Station, and after briefly greeting the crowd, were taken by limousine to Cleveland.

John F. Kennedy visited Akron on April 4, 1959, when he gave the principal address to the Jefferson-Jackson club in the ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel. At the time, he was simply the junior Senator from Massachusetts and remained noncommittal regarding questions about his candidacy for President. But those present for the banquet and reception given in his honor were charmed by his "easy manner and friendly smile" and were convinced he would run for President.

Lyndon Johnson was here on October 21, 1964, arriving at Akron-Canton airport and caravanning to Akron for a scheduled speech at the University of Akron. En route to the University, Johnson hopped out of his open limousine several times in downtown Akron, walking along the sidewalk and shaking the hands of surprised lunchtime office workers and shoppers. Slowly making his way to Memorial Hall on the University of Akron campus, LBJ gave a speech that proclaimed "We are not about to send American boys 9 or 10,000 miles away from home to do what Asian boys ought to be doing for themselves." Finishing his speech at Memorial Hall, Johnson afterwards made an impromptu visit to publisher John S. Knight at the Beacon Journal.

Richard Nixon once spent a few days in Akron, taking a brief vacation here. Vice-President Nixon was here for the opening of the Soap Box Derby on August 15, 1959. While here, he was the guest of *Akron Beacon Journal* publisher John S. Knight, spending a total of four days relaxing and playing golf at the Portage Country Club. (The report of his round published in the paper reported that he shot an 89, highest among his foursome) As President, he was back in Akron on the evening of July 30, 1971, after touring the Pro Football Hall of fame in Canton. Nixon stayed overnight in a special suite on the fifth floor of the Akron Holiday Inn, which had to be hurriedly redesigned to accommodate the Presidential retinue. Later designated as Gallucci Hall on the campus of the University of Akron, this building has, until very recently, functioned as a student dormitory. Strong rumors persist that Nixon would make frequent trips to Akron – even while President –to play a round of golf with his good friend John S. Knight of the Beacon Journal who forbade any coverage of these clandestine visits.

Then Vice President, Richard M. Nixon, joined Chevrolet's Edward N. Cole in the winner's circle to congratulate Barney Townsend of Anderson, Indiana, victor in the 1959 classic.

Gerald Ford was here on October 14, 1965, when he spoke to the Kiwanis Club at the Mayflower-Sheraton Hotel. He was here again as a former President on October 6, 1986 and again on April 28, 2003, both times being the featured speaker at E. J. Thomas Hall at the University of Akron.

As a candidate for the nomination, Jimmy Carter made a campaign stop at the Goodrich Union Hall on Wolf Ledges Parkway on May 28, 1976.

Ronald Reagan arrived in August of 1951 to take part in the opening festivities at the Soap Box Derby. Along with ventriloquist Paul Winchell and cowboy character actor Andy Devine, Reagan took part in the celebrity "Oil Can Race." A much-anticipated annual event, the race that year saw Reagan finish a close second to Winchell and his sidekick/co-pilot Jerry Mahoney. Forty one years later, in 1992, Reagan returned to give a speech to an invitation-only gathering at the Portage Country Club on Merriman Rd.

1951 Celebrities at the All American Soap Box Derby: Andy Devine, Paul Winchell, and Ronald Reagan.

The most recent Presidents have also made local appearances. George Bush Sr. came here September 27, 1990 to stump for gubernatorial candidate George Voinovich. Bill Clinton came for the opening of the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1994 and for the Coming Together Project in 1997. George W. Bush arrived by train at Quaker Square station in 2000 for a campaign rally. Standing on a specially constructed platform on the tender of the antique locomotive display, Bush and running mate Cheney spoke to several hundred people before resuming their journey.

As we near the 2008 campaign season, we can look forward to visits from many more candidates seeking audiences and votes.

3rd Annual Late Night at the Library

Join the Special Collections Division and the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society on Friday, September 28, 2007, for the Third Annual Late Night at the Library. The library will close at its normal time of 6 pm and re-open for genealogists only from 6:30-10:30 pm. Parking is free after 6 pm in the High & Market Street deck. Refreshments will be provided, and all printing and copying charges will be waived.

Registration is not required, and all levels of genealogy expertise are welcome. For more information, please call Special Collections at 330.643.9030.

D. Bruce Mansfield Collection

Special Collections is honored to be chosen as the repository for papers pertaining to the personal and professional life of the late D. Bruce Mansfield. A former president of Ohio Edison, Mr. Mansfield was actively engaged in the community, serving for several years on the board of the Senior Workers' Action Program, now known as Mature Services. A recovering alcoholic, Mr. Mansfield encouraged the social service organization to provide services to senior citizens with alcohol problems. The D. Bruce Mansfield Center at Mature Services was established for this purpose, and continues to serve clients today. A collection of Mr. Mansfield's papers, maintained for many years at the Center, will now make its home in the Special Collections Division. We are grateful to Mature Services for donating this collection of materials to the Akron-Summit County Public Library.

West Virginians (continued)

Rubber Company records show that a large proportion of these new Akron residents were from the state of West Virginia. This is not surprising considering the rubber companies recruited laborers by placing want ads in the local West Virginia newspapers. Word of mouth also contributed heavily to the increased immigration from south and east of the Ohio river. So many West Virginians made the trip to Akron that it was only halfway in jest it was said the "three R's" were taught in West Virginia schools – that is Readin', Rightin' and Route 21 - the primary highway to Akron from the south in those years.

After obtaining employment here, the newly transplanted found a place to live as best they could. Before the economic downturn in 1921, it was not unusual for a single male laborer to work a full shift at one plant then race to another plant to earn an additional paycheck. With housing at a premium, it was also common for these men to "hotbunk" with other laborers in the same situation but on another shift. This was usually in the southern or eastern parts of town, as those who could afford the expense, purchased property on Akron's west side – away from the prevailing westerly winds. Once experienced, the acrid smell of burning rubber was something to be avoided if possible.

For recreation there was even a club – known as the West Virginia Society. Founded in 1916, a grand picnic was held every August usually at Akron's Summit Beach Park and the featured speaker was frequently a politician from West Virginia. Crowds numbering upwards of 20 to 30 thousand people were not unusual. At these yearly gatherings, contests were held, including the standard beauty queen, Miss West Virginia, but also the "homeliest person" and best "husband caller" a talent requiring considerable lung capacity. Although the society holidays ceased earlier, the society itself lasted well into the 1990s.

The Great Depression dealt a severe blow to the rubber industry, and many rubber workers decided to return to their homes in West Virginia. When businesses started hiring again, during the World War II years, many returned to make aircraft parts, tires, and other defense industry goods. Still more downturns in the fortunes of our local industries saw employees retiring and many deciding to stay here, seeing Akron as home.

Special Collections houses many different materials to help you with your West Virginia heritage research. We have Akron City Directories for most years between 1871 and 2005. These directories functioned as the telephone books of a community before there were telephone books and can help fill in the blanks between census years. Vital records such as marriage records and death records are held at the county level, and we have a growing collection of these books from a variety of West Virginia counties.

Additionally, the West Virginia Division of Culture and History has created an on-line Genealogy Corner at http://www.wvculture.org/history/genealog.html which provides information about some of the collections held by the archives as well as other How To's and histories. Many vital records are also on-line at http://www.wvculture.org/vrr/va_select.aspx.

New Online Resource: Access NewspaperARCHIVE

The Library now subscribes to Access NewspaperARCHIVE, a searchable online archive of over 2,700 newspaper titles from around the world, dating as far back as the 1700s. Newspapers from Summit County are not included in the database, and the time period covered varies from publication to publication, but the database can be a wonderful time and money-saving tool for researchers accustomed to contacting out-of-town libraries to request articles.

For general information about this resource and the newspapers that it includes, you may visit www.newspaperarchive.com. To actually search the database using the Library's subscription, visit any ASCPL location and look for the link on the "Databases & Websites" portion of the Library's Web site.

On Exhibit

In honor of the rich multicultural heritage of Akron's own Howard St., the Special Collections Division, in cooperation with Cascade Locks Park Association, will present a display on the second floor in front of the Popular Culture Division. This special exhibit will show images from the heyday of Howard St., when it was alive with jazz and businesses were flourishing in this neighborhood. You can catch this exhibit July through August, along with a complementary display by the Audio-Visual Services Division about the history of jazz. All this is in celebration of the annual event hosted by the Cascade Locks Park Association known as Hot Jazz on Howard St. which takes place on Saturday August 18th at the Interbelt Nite Club. To see details, visit http://www.cascadelocks.org/events.htm.

During July and August, the City of Akron will host a series of dance performances throughout Akron. Featuring regional dance companies, these performances will highlight the work of former Ohio Ballet Artistic Director Heinz Poll. In conjunction with this festival, Special Collections will offer an exhibit, *Heinz Poll: a Tribute – Photographs from the Ott Gangl Collection.* This exhibit, featuring photographs from the Ott Gangl Collection, may be seen at the Main Library on the second floor in the Garden Trio Corridor. For more information about the dance festival, visit the City's website: www.ci.akron.oh.us.

The Reporter on Microfilm

Special Collections now has most issues of *The Reporter* newspaper on microfilm, from its first issue on October 11, 1969 through 1999 and from 2003-2004. Youngstown lawyer William Ellis, Sr. founded *The Reporter* to fill the void left after local African American newspapers the *Informer* and the *Akronite* ceased publication in 1960 and 1967, respectively. This weekly newspaper, now under the direction of William Jr., continues to report news, events, and issues of particular relevance to African Americans across northeastern Ohio.

SLO Genealogy Collection Now at Columbus Metro Library

By Cheri Goldner, Librarian

The genealogy collection of the State Library of Ohio (SLO) was recently moved to the Columbus Metropolitan Library (CML) and is now on the shelves and ready for use.

The Genealogy, History & Travel Division at CML's Main Library was chosen as the collection's new home because of its hours of operation, ability to provide open access to the collection, and commitment to providing excellent customer service. The 30,000-volume collection includes census and county records, cemetery books, military rosters, how-to books, and family rosters.

As part of the agreement, CML will expand its genealogical services to embrace the concept of "Ohio, the Gateway to the West," focusing on Ohio not only as a state in itself, but also as the migratory route between the eastern and southern states and the American west in the early 19th century. This concept includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina.

In addition, SLO and CML have agreed to partner in offering classes for the general public, cataloging the collection, digitizing and preserving items in the collection, and assisting genealogical organizations with outreach.

CML's Main Library is open Monday—Thursday from 9-9, Friday and Saturday from 9-6, and Sunday from 1-5. For more information, contact the library at 614.645.2ASK or visit their Web site at: http://www.columbuslibrary.org .

Gifts from the Summit County Chapter of OGS

By Judy James, Division Manager

The April meeting of the Summit County Ohio Genealogical Society Chapter was a special one. Charter members Violet Barden, Ima Gene Boyd, and Elizabeth Manuel were honored for their many years of service, and current Publications Chair, Lois Noirot, was recognized for outstanding service to the Chapter. Lois was presented with a collection of letters of appreciation and a framed proclamation from Mayor Plusquellic designating April 21, 2007 as "Lois Noirot Day."

For Special Collections, the meeting was like Christmas in April! The Chapter presented the Library with several items including:

Records of the Summit County Chapter of OGS: the collection includes the Chapter's charter, meeting minutes, photographs, member lists, and other historical materials. These materials were maintained for many years by Chapter historian, Ima Gene Boyd.

Microfilmed records:
Stark County Birth records, 1867-1908
Stark County Death records, 1867-1908
Portage County Birth & Death records, 1867-1908
Portage County Marriage records, 1808-1917

OmniPage 15 Software for our collaborative project with the Chapter to digitize Summit County cemetery records.

A copy of the Chapter's new publication, *Saint Vincent Cemetery Records*.

Civil War Roll Call, a handsome binder of materials commemorating the Chapter's Civil War program at Glendale Cemetery last year, as well as genealogical information about the Civil War ancestors of Chapter members.

We are extremely grateful to the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society for these most generous gifts and for their continued support of Special Collections.

2007 Akron History Trails – Get Your Passport

By Cheri Goldner, Librarian

The City of Akron and the partners of the Lock 3 Akron History Museum have teamed up to bring the Akron History Trails Project back this summer. While last year's program focused on 1931 and the 75th anniversary of notable buildings constructed that year, the 2007 project concentrates on the city's downtown historic monuments and markers.

An Akron History Trails booklet featuring city monuments and markers, themed history trails, and historic buildings and institutions will be available at participating institutions. Participants may then visit the sites and either have their passports stamped or, for sites that are not staffed, answer a question or complete a task in order to mark their visit.

The program is expected to kick off on July 2 at 10:30 a.m. with the dedication of the Ohio Historic Marker at the Glendale Steps. Built by the Federal Works Progress Administration over a two-year period from 1936-1937, the Glendale Steps survive as a monument to the work of stone craftsmen during the Great Depression. Spanning a 200-foot slope, the steps enable residents to descend from South Walnut Street to a city park along Glendale Avenue. The cost of the 242 sandstone steps was $22,000. Budget restraints of the time prevented the City of Akron from completing planned improvements to the park.

Details of this year's Akron History Trails Project are still being finalized. For more information about the project and other summer events in Akron, visit the City of Akron's website at http://www.ci.akron.oh.us/.

StoryCorps®
Comes to Cleveland

By Cheri Goldner, Librarian

StoryCorps, the national oral history project in which participants interview one another, and 90.3 FM WCPN station are bringing a StoryCorps MobileBooth to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland August 2–Aug 25, 2007. Reservations for one-hour interview sessions will be accepted starting July 19 at 10 am. For the first two weeks and starting on August 3 at 10 am. for the remainder of the stop. You can make a reservation by calling the StoryCorps reservation line at 800.850.4406 or visiting the StoryCorps web site at http://www.storycorps.net/ (Click on "Participate" and then on "Record an Interview"). A donation of at least $10 is suggested (each interview costs StoryCorps $250 to produce), but no one will be turned away.

The StoryCorps project started in 2003 and aims to instruct and inspire people to record one another's stories in sound. Modeled after a project of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) that recorded oral history interviews with everyday Americans across the country during the 1930s, StoryCorps hopes to expand upon this work and become a WPA for the 21st Century. To do this, it operates several soundproof recording studios, called StoryBooths, across the country. Currently, there are two StoryBooths in New York City, an Outpost in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and two MobileBooths--air stream trailers that serve as traveling recording studios.

In StoryCorps interviews, participants interview one another in pairs with the help of a trained facilitator in a StoryBooth. The facilitator helps participants decide which questions to ask and handles all the technical aspects of the recording. At the end of the hour-long session, participants receive a copy of their interview on CD. With participants' permission, another copy will be added to the StoryCorps Archive in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, where it will be accessible for generations to come. Excerpts from selected StoryCorps interviews are broadcast on National Public Radio's *Morning Edition* program on Friday mornings.

The StoryCorps visit to Cleveland is a wonderful opportunity for northeast Ohio residents to sit down with a friend, neighbor, or family member and ask him or her questions that you've always wanted to ask. The experience will not only leave the two of you feeling closer and understanding each other better, it will also provide you with a recording that you can listen to later and help provide a lasting record of life in northeast Ohio.

Online Records Update

Transcriptions are now available online for Springfield Township, Summit County cemeteries. Cemeteries included are: Edwin Shaw Sanitarium (a.k.a. Springfield Sanitarium), Ellet Memorial (a.k.a. Memorial Park or Springfield Presbyterian), Maple Hill (a.k.a. Brethren Cemetery), Memory Lane, Millheim Church, Mogadore (a.k.a. Greenwood), and Springfield Township (a.k.a. Tisen Cemetery or Keiser). Produced by Michael Elliott, you can access these records from our website at http://www.akronlibrary.org/internetresources/sc/finding/SpringfieldCemeteries.pdf.

Local History Events

Tallmadge Bicentennial Celebration
Tallmadge Bicentennial Committee
June 23-24
Join us on the circle Saturday evening at 6:30 pm for musical entertainment, an illuminated night parade, and fireworks. On Sunday, Family Day begins at noon with car, quilt, and dog shows, as well as marble lessons, and other contests. Refreshments will be available and the Old Town Hall. The Schenkenberger house and Historic Church will be open. For more information, call Tallmadge City Hall at 330.633.0857.

Olde Canal Days Festival
July 12-14
Visit the historic business district of Canal Fulton during this festival promoting the rich history of the Ohio & Erie Canal and the City of Canal Fulton. Live entertainment is scheduled for the whole weekend. Thursday - Olde Canal Days Jr. Queen Pageant. Friday - Firemen's Parade - 7 pm; Sr. Queen Pageant; Sat - Grande Parade 11 am. Hours: Thurs - 5-11 pm; Fri - 5-11 pm; Sat - 11 am-midnight. For more information, call 330.854.9095 or visit www.cityofcanalfulton.org or www.discovercanalfulton.com .

Italian American Festival
July 13-15
Held in the Riverfront Center District of Cuyahoga Falls, this festival is a great time for the entire family. Hours: Fri – 5 pm.-midnight; Sat – Noon-midnight; Sun – 1-7 pm. For more information, please call 330.699.9911.

Irish Cultural Festival,
July 20-22
Held on the Berea Fairgrounds on Bagley Road, Cleveland's Irish Cultural Festival is a non-profit, annual civic event, benefiting local and national charities. Enjoy Irish bands, step dancers, plays, food, children's activities and Irish historical exhibits. Hours: Fri - 4 pm-midnight; Sat - 1 pm.-midnight; Sun mass - 11:30 am; festival - 1-11 pm. Admission charged. For more information, visit www.clevelandirish.org

Celebration of Preservation
Cleveland Restoration Society
Wednesday, July 25, 5:30 pm
Come celebrate historic preservation in our region as we recognize outstanding preservation projects that are making positive changes in our communities. Join the Cleveland Restoration Society for the 2007 preservation awards ceremony and annual membership meeting at the historic Hanna Theatre, 2067 East 14th Street, Cleveland. Call the Society at 216.426.1000 or send an email to Pam Petrowski at ppetrowski@clevelandrestoration.org for more information.

FinnFest USA 2007
July 26-28
The Ashtabula Harbor area came to be called "Finn Town." It was here that Finnish immigrants did their part along with a growing multi-national community to make Ashtabula the major center for Finnish-American cultural activity. Enjoy a heritage celebration that includes museums, tours, covered bridges, vendors, entertainment and much more. For more information, visit www.finnfestusa2007.com

Hot Jazz on Howard Street
Cascade Locks Parks Association
Saturday, August 18, 5:30-10:30 pm
Step back in time with us, to Akron's Jazz heyday. Picture yourself on a sultry summer evening in August of 1940, dressed to the nines, walking into one of Akron's hottest jazz clubs, the Interbelt Nite Club (The Old Ritz Theater). The hum of conversation, the smell of food, the sound of the musicians tuning up… It all makes for one of the best evenings to be had in Akron in 2007! Call 330.374.5625 for more information.

Genealogy Events

Finding Your Family in the Census
ASCPL-Special Collections
Tuesday, June 19, 6:30-8 pm
U.S. Census records are rich sources of genealogical information. Join us to learn more about using them effectively. Sessions are held in computer lab 1 in the main library and attendees should have basic computer skills. The class is free and open to the public. To register, contact Special Collections at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

2007 Summer Genealogy Workshop
Ohio Genealogical Society
June 24-29
The Ohio Genealogical Society' Summer Workshop will be held in Mansfield at The Society's library. This year the workshop will feature nationally known speakers who will cover many topics of interest to Ohio and other researchers such as cemeteries, land records, church records, vital records, internet update, immigration, and military

records. Presentations will also cover Pennsylvania, Virginia, New England, and German, Italian, and Scots-Irish research. For more information or to register, please see http://ogs.org/2007workshop.php.

Research Trip to the Ohio Historical Society
African American Genealogical Society
Saturday, June 30, 6 am – 10 pm
The society is sponsoring a one-day research trip to the Ohio Historical Society. The cost of the trip is $45 and the bus leaves from Whitney Young Middle School in Cleveland. For more information, please contact Alfreda Barnes at 330.467.3672 or ganiebarnes@sbcglobal.net.

Getting Started in Family History
ASCPL-Special Collections
Sunday, July 1, 2-3:30 pm
This orientation session for new family historians includes an overview of the genealogical sources available at the Akron-Summit County Public Library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. The class meets in the Special Collections Division of Main Library and is free and open to the public. Contact Special Collections to sign up at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Finding Your Family in the Census
ASCPL-Special Collections
Saturday, July 21, 10-11:30 am
U.S. Census records are rich sources of genealogical information. Join us to learn more about using them effectively. Sessions are held in computer lab 2 in the main library and attendees should have basic computer skills. The class is free and open to the public. To register, contact Special Collections at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Can't Find that Missing Grave?
Summit County OGS
Saturday, July 28, 1:00 pm
Join us at the East Akron Cemetery, 1135 East Market Street, Akron, Ohio to learn about Dowsing. Sherri Brake-Recco, a member of the American Society of Dowsers, with 12 years of experienced as a "grave dowser", will bring 30 dowsing rods and teach us how to find an unmarked gravesite. Everyone will get a chance to try this technique. She will also tell us about gravestone symbolism. Later, we'll enjoy an old fashioned "Ice Cream Social" with pies! Don't forget your lawn chair.

Getting Started in Family History
ASCPL-Special Collections
Sunday, August 5, 2-3:30 pm
This orientation session for new family historians includes an overview of the genealogical sources available at the Akron-Summit County Public Library, suggestions for getting started, and tips for organizing your research. The class meets in the Special Collections Division of Main Library and is free and open to the public. Contact Special Collections to register at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Federation of Genealogical Societies' 2007 Conference
Allen County Public Library
August 15-18
Join us at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, IN for informative presentations and workshops. There will be a large hall of exhibitors, a computer lab, and extended hours at the Genealogy Center. For more information, please see http://www.fgsconference.org/index.php.

Finding Your Family in the Census
ASCPL-Special Collections
Tuesday, August 21, 6:30-8 pm
U.S. Census records are rich sources of genealogical information. Join us to learn more about using them effectively. Sessions are held in computer lab 2 in the main library and attendees should have basic computer skills. The class is free and open to the public. To sign up, contact Special Collections at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

Finding Your Family in the Census
ASCPL-Special Collections
Saturday, September 15, 10-11:30 am
U.S. Census records are rich sources of genealogical information. Join us to learn more about using them effectively. Sessions are held in computer lab 2 in the main library and attendees should have basic computer skills. The class is free and open to the

public. To sign up, contact Special Collections at 330.643.9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

A special thanks to the Family History Center Library in Tallmadge for donating a large collection of microfilm including The *Ravenna Republican* and predecessor newspapers for 1886-1920, the *Garrettsville Journal,* 1879-1894, *Kent Courier,* 1889-1904, Portage County Probate and Common Pleas records, 1821-1884, and Portage County census records.

Dorothy Allen for materials pertaining to the African American community in Akron.

Robert Berrodin for miscellaneous photographs of Akron, and the Berrodin, Gayer, Roth, Dettling, Farnbach, and Huber families of Akron.

Christ Child Society of Akron for *The First Fifty Years: the History of the Christ Child Society of Akron, 1957-2007*

Michael Cohill for *McClure's Magazine,* July 1917

Roy Crawford for *The Heaton Families II: Volume one and two* by Dean Heaton

Daughters of the American Revolution, Akron Chapter for a donation to purchase *American Maritime Prisoners in the Revolutionary War* by Francis Cogliano as a memorial for deceased members, Marion Hoffman, Ruth McPhetridge Nellie Smith, and Robin Testa-Volpe.

Delta Kappa Gamma - Phi Chapter for historical materials pertaining to the Phi Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society in Akron.

Rev. Roderic Dibbert for materials pertaining to the DeKoven Foundation of Ohio.

Kevin Fleming for thirty-one genealogy books on West Virginia.

Mary Near Frashuer and Howland Davis II for genealogical materials compiled and prepared by Mrs. Frashuer and forty-five genealogical books.

Bruce Gifford for N.O.T. & L. bus token.

Judi and Karen Gondor for photograph of Samuel T. Daley and his Saxophone Band.

Edward Irvine for *1940 Akron Negro Directory.*

Claudia Kammer for Springfield, Tallmadge, & University of Akron yearbooks.

Robert Louis Massard for *Epling/Eplin: Volume VI, Additional Descendents, 1787-2006.*

Bill Plant for photograph of the 55th homecoming of Goodyear, 1953 and West High School newspapers, 1925-1928.

David Snyder for photographs of the High Level Bridge, Akron Centennial parade, Ku Klux Klan, and video: *Youth vs. the Underworld..*

New to the Collection

Alabama

Alabama 1860 agricultural & manufacturing census
Dead towns of Alabama
Map of the states of Alabama and Georgia
Old St. Stephen's Land Office records & American state papers, public lands, Vol. I: 1768-1888
Within the bend: stories of Wilcox County

Delaware

Delaware marriages and deaths from the Delaware Gazette

Georgia

Cobb County, index to white marriages, 1865-1837 and index to colored marriages, 1865-1966
Georgia black book: morbid, macabre & sometimes disgusting records of genealogical value
Gwinnett County, 1890 tax digest with land lots: substitute for lost 1890 Federal census
Gwinnett County, Book B, marriage licenses of free persons of color, 1866-1884
History of Chattahoochee County, Georgia

Kentucky

Campbell County, Kentucky history & biographies
Kenton County, Kentucky biographies

Maryland

Genealogical abstracts from The Brunswick Herald: 4 Jan. 1895 to 30 Dec. 1898
Inhabitants of Kent County, Maryland: 1637-1787
Revolutionary patriots of Frederick Co. 1775-1883
Revolutionary patriots of Prince George's Co. 1775-1783
Revolutionary patriots of Washington Co. 1776-1783
Washington County, church records of the 18th century: 1768-1800

New Hampshire

Abstracts of the probate records of Rockingham County, NH: 1771-1799. 2 vols.
Alton, vital records: 1890-1997
Births recorded in the town reports of Peterborough: 1887-1951
Gilmanton, vital records: 1887-2001
Marriages recorded in the town reports of Peterborough: 1887-1948
Moultonborough, New Hampshire vital records
New Castle, vital records: 1891-1997
Ossipee, vital records: 1887-2001
Vital records of Durham: 1887-2002
Vital records of Effingham and Freedom: 1888-2001
Vital statistics of Chichester: 1742-1927
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Vital statistics of Epsom: 1727-1927
Vital records of Effingham & Freedom: 1888-2001
The vital records of Kingston: 1694-1994
Vital records of Wakefield: 1887-1998
Vital records of Warren: 1887-2005

New York

Marriage and death notices from Schuyler Co. newspapers
Marriage & death notices from Seneca Co. newspapers: 1817-1885
The old burying ground at Sag Harbor, Long Island,
Tombstones of the Irish born: Cemetery of the Holy Cross, Flatbush, Brooklyn

North Carolina

Against peace and dignity of the state: North Carolina laws regarding slaves, free persons of color and Indians
North Carolina General Assembly Sessions records: slaves and free persons of color, 1809-1789

Ohio

Abstracts and extracts from Athens Co. newspapers, 1890: Part I, the Athens Herald & Athens Journal
Abstracts of the Weekly Crisis Newspaper, East Liverpool
Adams County vital records, Mar.1856-Mar. 1857
Akron-Canton football heritage
Akron railroads
Albany, Ohio: the first fifty years of a rural Midwestern community
Along the Ohio River: Cincinnati to Louisville
Artifacts of the coal age, Athens County region
As time goes by: a pictorial journal of Athens, Ohio
Ashtabula: people and places
Ashtabula firefighting
Athens County, Ohio, cemeteries
Athens County, death records, vols. 4 and 7
Avon
Baseball in Chillicothe
Baseball in Columbus
Baseball in Toledo
Bern Township cemeteries, Athens County, Ohio
Biographical index to the reprint of the Historical Atlas of Defiance County, Ohio 1876
Birth and death vital records: March 1856-March 1857, Adams County
Blacks in Ohio: 7 portraits
Boats of the Ohio Canal, 1839-1955: a listing of the registry of canal boats for the Ohio Canal...
Brewing in Cleveland
Brown County
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The Buckeye Rovers in the gold rush: an edition of two diaries
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Canaan Township cemeteries, Athens County, Ohio
Caves and culture: 10,000 years of Ohio history

Ohio (continued)

Celebrating Akron's Black history
Champaign County, Ohio. 1991
Champaign County, Ohio patent deeds located in the land deed indices
Champaign Democrat: centennial edition
The churches of Hancock County: past & present
Cincinnati: from river city to highway metropolis
Cincinnati: the World War II years
Cincinnati's golden age
Cleveland Heights
Cleveland Indians: Cleveland Press years, 1920-82
Cleveland Metroparks
Cleveland police
Cleveland's Flats
Cleveland's Playhouse Square
College Hill
Columbus: 1860-1910 & 1910-1970
Columbus: the story of a city
Cottages and castles of Maumee
Dayton
Death records in Steubenville, Ohio newspapers: primarily in 1875-1879
Death records of Souers-Cardaras Funeral Home, Nelsonville, Ohio. 3 vols, 1906-1999
Death records of White Funeral Home, Coolville, Ohio: 1903-1987
Defiance County, Ohio, marriages: Small volume two, 1855-1885
Divorce records, 1805-1919, Athens County
Domestic relations cases: minute book records & Supreme Court records of the Common Pleas courts of Champaign County, 1808-1939, Vol. 1
Early schools of Champaign County, Ohio
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Enumerations of males in Defiance Co.: 1839-1895
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Faith and family: Saint Paul's Catholic Church, Athens, Ohio: the nineteenth century
Fenn College
First African American Police Chief in Akron, Ohio
The Fleischmann Yeast family
Forest Hill: the Rockefeller estate
Four Mennonite cemeteries, Richland Township, Allen County, Ohio
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German Columbus
Getting to know Athens County
Greene County, Ohio: time capsule of 1901
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Guysville Methodist church records from the 19th & early 20th centuries
Hamilton
Hamilton County Church burial records, 1880-1889
Hamilton County's Green Township
Hancock County, Ohio ancestral charts, vols. 3 & 4
Hancock County, cemetery inscriptions: Washington Township, v. 1: Knollcrest Cemetery, Memory Gardens Cemetery
Historic Mill Creek Park
Historical facts & trivia of Champaign County
History of Coolville, Ohio, 1818-1968
Hold tight to the hames: episodes of life in Athens County
Holmes County, Ohio naturalizations
Hubbard
Illustrated and historical atlas of Carroll Co. 1874
Index to Athens County Historical Society & Museum Bulletin: Volumes 1-5, 1979-1984; Volumes 1-6, 1984-1989 (2 books)
Index to Cincinnati, Ohio death records, 1900-1902
Index to memorials of the citizens of Athens Co.
Index to Portage Co. probate records...1813-1942
Index to the 1976 Defiance Co. history
Index to the atlases of Athens Co.: 1875 and 1905
Index to wives' maiden names: 1850 Athens Co. census
The Kiwanis story: a history of the Kiwanis Club of Athens, 1921-2003
Krill Cave: a stratified rockshelter in Summit Co.
Little cities of black diamonds: urban development in the Hocking coal region, 1870-1900
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Marion
Marriage records of Hancock Co.: 1899 thru 1919
Marriages recorded in Hamilton Co.: 1870-1884; 1890-1894; 1895-1899 (separate volumes)
Memories of early Andover

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Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Athens, Ohio
New Philadelphia in vintage postcards
Northfield Park
Ohio in historic postcards: self-portrait of a state
Ohio's railway age in postcards
Old Saint Mary's Church, Cincinnati, Ohio: a history of the first 160 years of Catholic faith
Perrysburg historic architecture
Pilgrims of hope: the people of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland and Bishop Anthony M. Pilla reflect on 25 years together
Plat map index to the reprint of the Historical Atlas of Defiance County, Ohio 1876
Port Clinton, the Peninsula and the Bass Islands
Portage County, Ohio, cemeteries: every name index to volume 1: Franklin Twp., 1810-1990
Porter Funeral Home records, Volume I: 1903-1912
Riley Township, Putnam Co., cemeteries, vol. 15
Rome Township cemetery inscriptions, Athens Co.
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church cemeteries
Salem: a Quaker city history
Shaker Heights
Sharonville
The South Park Village Site and the late prehistoric Whittlesey tradition of Northeast Ohio
Sprinkled with coal dust: life and work in the Hocking coal region, 1870-1900
Stepping out in Cincinnati: Queen City entertainment, 1900-1960
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T.P. White and Sons Funeral Home index, Cincinnati, Ohio: 1935-1976
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Toledo: a history in architecture, 1914 to 2000
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Burials in Pine Grove Cemetery
Camp Run area cemeteries
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Till death do us part: marriages from Indiana Co. newspapers, 1880-1890
To serve well and faithfully: labor and indentured servants in Pennsylvania, 1682-1800
Walking among our ancestors: cemetery inscriptions of Clarion Co.
Passengers and ships prior to 1684: Volume 1

Rhode Island

Baptisms of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pascoag,: 1893-1991
Marriages of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Slatersville, 1872-1976
Marriages of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Pascoag: 1893-1991
Register of seamen's protection certificates from the Providence Custom District, 1796-1870

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Blount County, TN marriages, 1795-1865
Blount County, TN tombstone records
Blount County, TN will book No. 1, 1799-1858
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Gravestone inscriptions from Shelby County, Tennessee, cemeteries. 3 vols.
Hamilton County, TN marriage book, 1853-80

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Hamilton County, TN will book No. 1, 1862-1892
A history of Tennessee: Knox County
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Sullivan County: history of Tennessee
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Sullivan County, unbound marriages, 1861-1870
Sullivan County, TN will book No. 1, 1830-1870
Rutherford County: history of Tennessee
Tombstone records of Knox County, TN, vol. 1
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Wills & inventories of Rutherford County, 1804-40

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History of the town of Montpelier, 1781-1860
History of the town of Northfield: 1776-1876 centennial proceedings and historical incidents of the early settlers of Northfield, VT

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Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Court House
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Shadow Lawn Memory Gardens interments
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Military

Combat actions in Korea
History of the Eightieth Division, A.E.F. in World War I: the Blue Ridge Division
Civil War roll call: Glendale Cemetery, Akron, OH
Finding your father's war: a practical guide to researching and understanding service in the World War II US Army
Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska Civil War veterans: a compilation of the death rolls of the Departments of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic, 1883-1948
Ninety-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry: with the Civil War letters of Lt. Col. Benjamin Franklin Coates and an annotated roster of the men of Co. C
Sons of the mountains: the Highland regiments in the French & Indian War, 1756-1767. 2 vols.
Volunteer soldiers in the Cherokee War, 1836-1839

United States

Becoming an accredited genealogist
Finding Oprah's roots: finding your own
History of the Underground Railroad, American mysteries and Daughters of Jerusalem
Native American directory: vital records of Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and Wisconsin
The Melungeons: notes on the origin of a race
My Melungeon heritage: a story of life on Newman's Ridge

Canada

A century of municipal history (Welland County), 1792-1841

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German immigrants in American church records, Volume I: Indiana Protestant

Family History

Heaton families II

Published by the Special Collections Division
of the Akron-Summit County Public Library
Akron, Ohio
Editor: Joanne O'Dell

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